



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 9, 2018



Dear Friends in Christ,

We are already in the second week of the Advent season. There are not many days left for us to thoroughly prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christmas and “be ready” for the second coming in glory of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Where are you now in this spiritual preparation? Do you have time to sit down and look deeply into your heart and soul to see if there is/are any obstacle(s) that **prevent** you from celebrating Christmas joyfully? Do you let anyone or anything have the power to “block” you away from the peace, love and joy that Jesus brings to the world, to those who want to follow and accept Him?

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

This is what the prophet Isaiah and John the Baptist called everyone to do for the coming of the Messiah. This call, after centuries, still echoes to you and me today.

The Messiah, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, did come to the world, but not many people recognized Him or accepted Him. They did not want to make straight “their paths;” they refused to lower “their mountains;” they were afraid to make straight “their winding roads,” and they ignored directions to make smooth “their ways.”

Two thousand years after the first coming of the Messiah, the *mountain of pride* is still too high; the *valley of wickedness* is too deep; the *winding road of hatred* increases the division among religions and nations; the *road of conversion and understanding* becomes rougher.

Unless you and I truly “prepare the way of the Lord” from within (ourselves, our families, our community) and promote it, we cannot “see the salvation of God.”

I think that the key for this preparation is HUMILITY. Humility will open the way. It will lower the mountain of pride, fill up the valley of wickedness, break down the wall of hatred, bring unity to nations and religions, and lead people to conversion and the understanding of each other. Friends, we need to see our own weakness; we must realize our need of repentance and forgiveness from God. HUMILITY will help us to do so.

Jesus Christ - the Messiah - humbled Himself to be born of the virgin, He died on the cross, was buried in the tomb and God exalted Him above everything.

Peace in Christ,

F. Tien



STEWARDSHIP

Budgeted Weekly Needs	\$4,825
Total Offertory	\$8,895
Cash/Envelopes	\$8,710
Online Giving	\$ 185
Capital Improvements	\$1,620

Attendance

Saturday	4:00 P.M.	133
Sunday	9:00 A.M.	227
	11:30 A.M.	456

Thank you to all who faithfully contribute and are so generous to our Parish.

CLASSES - MEETINGS

Sunday ... Faith Formation ... 10:30 am-11:30 am

Monday ... Women’s Guild Meeting ... 10:00 am
(Second Monday of each month)

Monday ... R.C.I.A. ... 6:30 pm

Tuesday...Craft & Sewing Group...10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Tuesday...Knights of Columbus Meeting...7:00 pm
(First Tuesday of each month)

Wednesday...First Communion Class...7:00 pm

Thursday...Choir Practice...3:00-5:00 pm

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve - Monday, December 24th

6:00 P.M. - Children's Mass

9:00 P.M. - En Español



Christmas Day - Tuesday, December 25th

9:00 A.M. - Nativity of the Lord



Our condolences are extended to Teresa Williams on the death of her mother, Gloria Wilson, and to Jan Eckerle on the death of her husband, George. May their souls, along with the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in God's loving peace.

Fr. Tien and Fr. Julio will be available on Thursday, December 13th at 5:00 p.m. to hear your confessions.



The Youth Christmas Choir will practice from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday morning after Mass with Ms. Debbie. Class time will be from 11:00 a.m. until noon.

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas. Don't let this Advent pass you by, slow down and focus on what matters most. Sign up at BestAdventEver.com to receive inspirational videos each day, practical tips for your everyday life, and real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey.



The Mass on Wednesday, for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, has been changed from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and will be in Spanish.

"The Lay Carmelites of St. Mary Mother of God" are having an open house for those interested in the Carmelite way of life this Saturday, December 15th at St. Mary Catholic Church in Sylva after the 9 a.m. Mass.



There is a second collection this weekend for the Religious Retirement Fund. This annual appeal benefits some 33,000 senior Catholic women and men (sisters, brothers and religious order priests) who have consecrated their lives to serving God. Please be generous.

Envelopes are available at the church entrances for offerings for Christmas altar flowers and decorations. You may make an offering in honor or in memory of loved ones and friends.



We are fortunate to have a parish library located next to the Chapel. It has 33 book sections (Saints writings, Lives of the Saints, Bishop Sheen, St. John Paul 11, etc.) Also 9 sections of DVD's (Popes, Our Lady, etc.) A good Catholic book nourishes the Spirit. Please sign them out: books 4 weeks; DVD's 1 week. Questions? Email: georgette_3in1@msn.com. Thank you!

Pray for everyone who seeks healing: Eric Baquet, Ray Behr, Dean Birchard, Jim Broadwell, Alexander Canelas, Pauline Catania, Tom Coffey, Richard Conner, Carol Cukla, Craig Currier, Dotti Currier, Heath Currier, Dan DeBetta, Kathy DeBetta, Lillianne Duong Davis, Ron Gralewski, Curt Halter, Monte Hamilton, Lori Bourgeois Harvey, Peggy Hewlett, Bill Himschoot, Edline Jigla, Florencio Jimenez, Jerry & Sue Kempinski, Brandon Lowery, Lenore Maynard, Danny Mercer, Sue Merry, Millard Michaels, Bill & Dee Moffitt, Germaine Moffit, Kathy Moffitt, Laura Moore, Cheryl Murphy, Wanda Orf, Chris Richards, Josette Roisin, Derrick Scaletta, Bill Shaw, Bena Lee Shields, Cora Shope, Marlene Taber, John Tastinger, Elijah Thomas, Ed Tisdale, Teresa Williams, Thomas Wimpey, Charlene Youdell, Alice Yuzzi, Adan Vanbourgandien, Mary Ann Zoeckler.



Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, December 8

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 P.M. † Charles Hoefeysers by Rosalie Perreault

Sunday, December 9

Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 A.M. † Bob Kilian, † Jeanette Peters, † John Driver

11:30 A.M. Parish Peoples Mass En Español

Monday, December 10

9:00 A.M. † Richard Hockford

Tuesday, December 11

Saint Damasus 1, Pope

8:00 A.M. † The Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 P.M. Parish Peoples Mass En Español

Thursday, December 13

Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

9:00 A.M. † The Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, December 14

Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

9:00 A.M. † The Holy Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, December 15

4:00 P.M. † William Nemeth by Pat Tuscany

Sunday, December 16

Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 A.M. † George Eckerle by Dan & Shirley Allegretti

11:30 A.M. Parish Peoples Mass En Español

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday from 3:00 to 3:45 P.M.

Wednesday at 6:15 P.M.

The Rosary and The Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Rosary is recited everyday one-half hour before each Mass except for first Saturday.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is recited each Friday at 3:00 P.M.

Elderly & shut-in: Barbara Elliot, Candida Hernandez, Peggy Gibson,
Parishioners & all armed forces: Aaron Brooks, William Crunkleton, Patrick Debo, Michael Douglas, Brandon Dziurgot, Jeremiah Elam, Jacob Ewing, Joseph Hagge, Russell Helma, Christian Houston, Ben Hunter, Carol Hysell, Thomas Hysell, Raymond Hysell, Amy Hysell, Stephen Karcher, Kyle McCormick, Chris Richards, Michael Ricke, Elizabeth Scoone.

